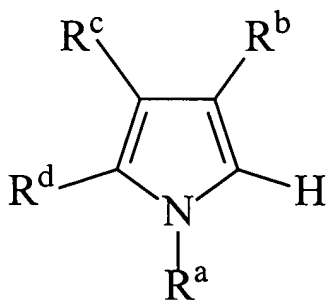


Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended): An organometallic compound obtained ~~obtainable~~ by contacting:

a) a compound having the following formula (I):



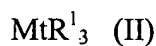
(I)

wherein[[:]]

R^a is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms; or R^a can join R^d to form a C₄-C₇ ring;

R^b, R^c and R^d, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^b, R^c, and R^d form one or more C₄-C₇ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents; with

b) a Lewis acid of formula (II):

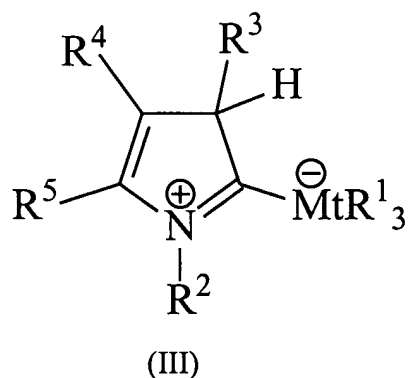


wherein Mt is a metal belonging to Group 13 of the Periodic Table of the Elements; R¹, equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated C₆-C₂₀ aryl or ~~and~~ halogenated C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups; two R¹ groups can also form with the metal Mt one condensed ring.

2. (currently amended): The organometallic compound according to claim 1

wherein[[:]] Mt is B or Al; and the substituents R^1 are C_6F_5 , C_6F_4H , $C_6F_3H_2$, $C_6H_3(CF_3)_2$, perfluoro-biphenyl, heptafluoro-naphthyl, hexafluoro-naphthyl or pentafluoro-naphthyl.

3. (currently amended): The organometallic compound according to claim 1 having formula (III):



wherein[[:]]

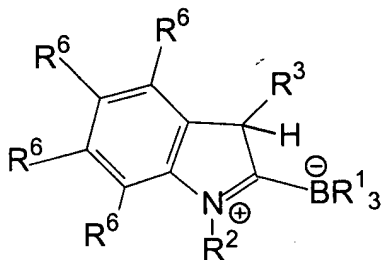
Mt is a metal belonging to Group 13 of the Periodic Table of the Elements (IUPAC); R^1 , equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated C_6 - C_{20} aryl or halogenated C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl groups; or two R^1 groups can form with the metal Mt one condensed ring; the substituents R^5 , R^4 and R^3 equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} arylalkyl or C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^3 , R^4 and R^5 form one or more C_4 - C_7 rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si;

R^2 is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} arylalkyl or C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms or R^2 can join R^5 to form a C_4 - C_7 ring.

4. (currently amended): The organometallic compound according to claim 3 wherein Mt is B or Al; the substituents R^1 , equal to or different from each other, are C_6F_5 , C_6F_4H , $C_6F_3H_2$, $C_6H_3(CF_3)_2$, perfluoro-biphenyl, heptafluoro-naphthyl, hexafluoro-naphthyl or pentafluoro-naphthyl; R^4 and R^5 form one C_5 - C_6 aromatic ring, optionally containing O, S, N, or P atoms, that can bear substituents; R^2 is a C_1 - C_{10}

alkyl or C₆-C₂₀ aryl group; and R³ is hydrogen.

5. (currently amended): The organometallic compound according to claim 3 ~~claims 3 or 4~~ having formula (V):



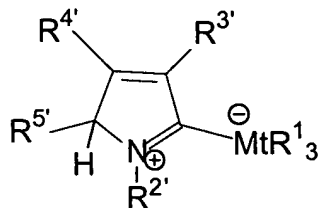
(V)

wherein

B is a boron atom;

~~the substituents R¹, R² and R³ have the meaning reported in claim 3 or 4 and the~~ substituents R⁶, the same or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R⁶ form one or more C₄-C₇, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms rings that can bear substituents.

6. (currently amended): The organometallic compound according to claim 1 having formula (IV):



(IV)

wherein

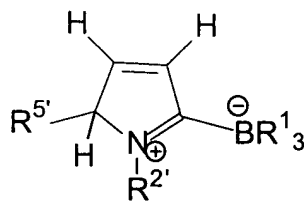
~~Mt and R¹ are defined as in claim 1;~~

the substituents R^{3'}, R^{4'} and R^{5'}, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^{3'}, R^{4'} and R^{5'} form one or

more C₄-C₇ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents; said rings can be aliphatic and optionally ~~or optionally can~~ contain double bonds; with the proviso that said rings are not aromatic;

R^{2'} is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms; or R^{2'} can join R^{5'} to form a C₄-C₇ ring.

7. (currently amended): The organometallic compound according to claim 6 wherein R^{2'} is a C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, or C₆-C₂₀ aryl group; the substituents R^{3'}, R^{4'} and R^{5'}, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^{3'}, R^{4'} and R^{5'} form one or more C₄-C₇ rings optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents; said rings can be aliphatic and optionally ~~or optionally can~~ contain double bonds, with the proviso that said rings are not aromatic.
8. (currently amended): The organometallic compound according to claim 6 ~~claims 6 or 7~~ having formula (VI):

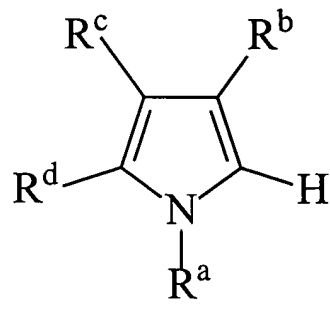


(VI)

wherein

~~the substituents R¹ and R^{2'} have the meaning as described in claims 6 or 7 above~~
~~and~~ the substituent R^{5'} is a C₁-C₂₀ alkyl group.

9. (currently amended): A salt obtained ~~obtainable~~ by contacting, in any order:
 - a) a compound having formula (I); ~~as described in claim 1;~~



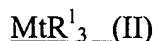
(I)

wherein

R^a is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms; or R^a can join R^d to form a C₄-C₇ ring;

R^b, R^c and R^d, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^b, R^c, and R^d form one or more C₄-C₇ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents;

- b) a Lewis acid of formula (II): ~~as described in claim 1;~~



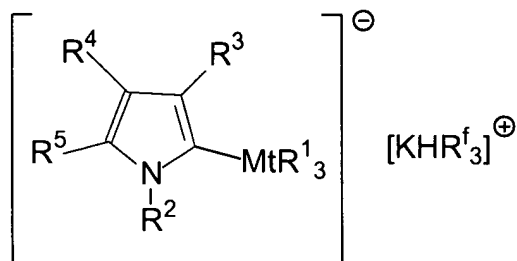
wherein Mt is a metal belonging to Group 13 of the Periodic Table of the Elements; R¹, equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated C₆-C₂₀ aryl or halogenated C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups; two R¹ groups can also form with the metal Mt one condensed ring; and

- c) a compound of formula KR^f₃ wherein K is a nitrogen (N) or phosphorous (P) atom; R^f, equal to or different from each other, are linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₃₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two R^f can form one C₄-C₇ ring, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents.

10. (original): The salt according to claim 9 wherein K is nitrogen; and R^f is selected

from the group consisting of linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₃₀ alkyl.

11. (currently amended): The salt according to claim 9 having formula (VII):



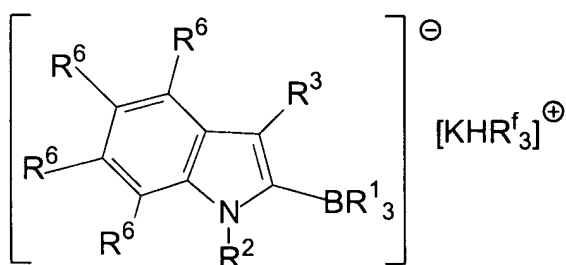
(VII)

wherein R¹, equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated C₆-C₂₀ aryl or halogenated C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups; or two R¹ groups can form with the metal Mt one condensed ring; the substituents R⁵, R⁴ and R³, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R³, R⁴ and R⁵ form one or more C₄-C₇ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si;

R² is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms or R² can join R⁵ to form a C₄-C₇ ring.

~~R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, are described in claim 3; and Mt, K and R^f are described in claim 9.~~

12. (currently amended): The salt according to claim 11 having formula (IX):

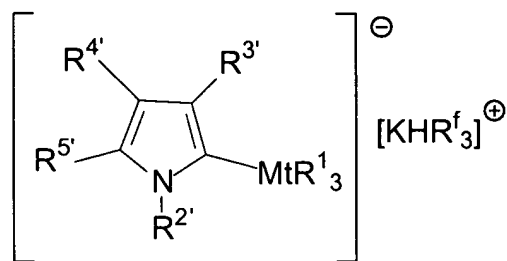


(IX)

wherein B is a boron atom. R¹, R², R³, R⁶, B, K and R^f have the meaning as

~~described in claim 11.~~

13. (currently amended): The salt according to claim 9 having formula (VIII):



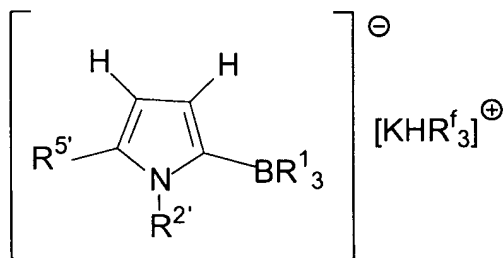
(VIII)

wherein R^1 , equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{20}$ aryl or halogenated $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ alkylaryl groups; two R^1 groups can also form with the metal Mt one condensed ring; the substituents $\text{R}^{3'}$, $\text{R}^{4'}$ and $\text{R}^{5'}$, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{20}$ aryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ arylalkyl or $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents $\text{R}^{3'}$, $\text{R}^{4'}$ and $\text{R}^{5'}$ form one or more $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_7$ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents; said rings can be aliphatic and optionally contain double bonds; with the proviso that said rings are not aromatic;

$\text{R}^{2'}$ is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{20}$ aryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ arylalkyl or $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms; or $\text{R}^{2'}$ can join $\text{R}^{5'}$ to form a $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_7$ ring.

~~R^+ , R^{2+} , R^{3+} , R^{4+} , R^{5+} , are described in claim 6, and Mt, K and R^f are described in claim 9.~~

14. (currently amended): The salt according to claim 13 having formula (X):



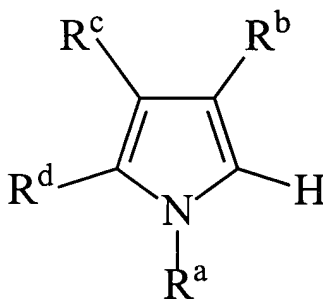
(X)

wherein B is a boron atom. R^+ , R^{2+} , R^{5+} , B, K and R^f have the meaning as described

~~in claim 13.~~

15. (currently amended): A catalyst system for the polymerization of olefins comprising the product obtained by contacting:

- (A) at least one transition metal organometallic compound, and
- (B) an organometallic compound obtained ~~obtainable~~ by contacting:
 - a) a compound having the following formula (I):



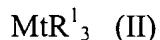
(I)

wherein

R^a is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms; or R^a can join R^d to form a C₄-C₇ ring;

R^b, R^c and R^d, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^b, R^c, and R^d form one or more C₄-C₇ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents; ~~R^a, R^b, R^c and R^d are described as in claim 1;~~

- b) a Lewis acid of formula (II):



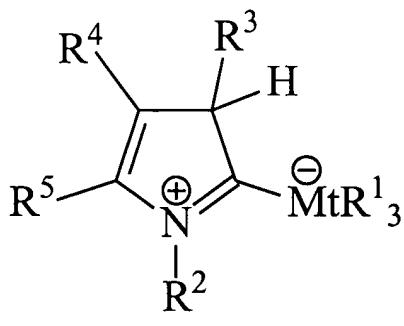
wherein Mt is a metal belonging to Group 13 of the Periodic Table of the Elements; R¹, equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated C₆-C₂₀ aryl or halogenated C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups; two R¹ groups can also form with the metal Mt one condensed ring;

~~wherein Mt and R¹ are described as in claim 1; and~~

c) optionally a compound of formula KR^f_3 wherein K is a nitrogen (N) or phosphorous (P) atom; R^f , equal to or different from each other, are linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1 - C_{30} alkyl, C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} arylalkyl or C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two R^f can form one C_4 - C_7 ring, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents.

~~wherein K and R^f are described as in claim 9.~~

16. (original): The catalyst system according to claim 15 further comprising an alkylating agent.
17. (currently amended): The catalyst system according to claim 15 ~~anyone of claims 15 or 16~~ wherein the organometallic compound B) is chosen from the ~~has following formulae~~ ~~formula~~ (III), (V), (IV), (VI), (VII), (IX), (VIII) or (X); ~~wherein these compounds are described in claims 2-17.~~

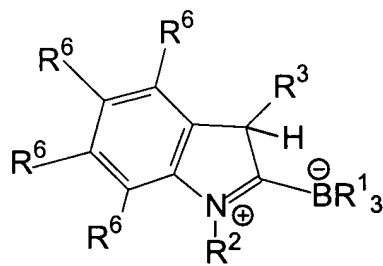


(III)

wherein

Mt is a metal belonging to Group 13 of the Periodic Table of the Elements (IUPAC); R^1 , equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated C_6 - C_{20} aryl or halogenated C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl groups; or two R^1 groups can form with the metal Mt one condensed ring; the substituents R^5 , R^4 and R^3 equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} arylalkyl or C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^3 , R^4 and R^5 form one or more C_4 - C_7 rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si;

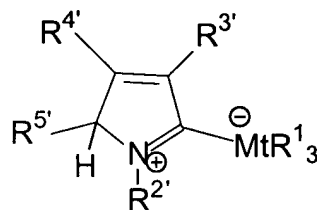
R² is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms or R² can join R⁵ to form a C₄-C₇ ring;



(V)

wherein

B is a boron atom; the substituents R⁶, the same or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R⁶ form one or more C₄-C₇, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms rings that can bear substituents;

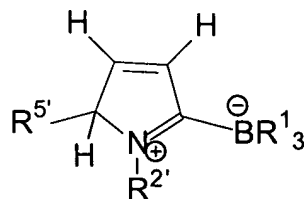


(IV)

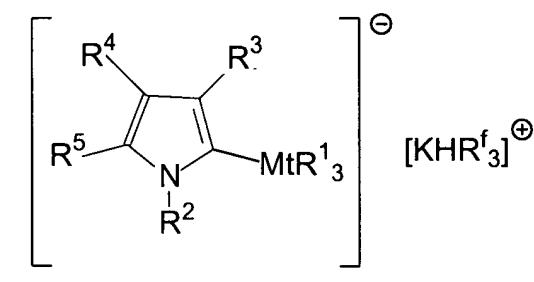
wherein

the substituents R^{3'}, R^{4'} and R^{5'}, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^{3'}, R^{4'} and R^{5'} form one or more C₄-C₇ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents; said rings can be aliphatic and optionally contain double bonds; with the proviso that said rings are not aromatic;

$R^{2'}$ is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} arylalkyl or C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms; or $R^{2'}$ can join $R^{5'}$ to form a C_4 - C_7 ring;

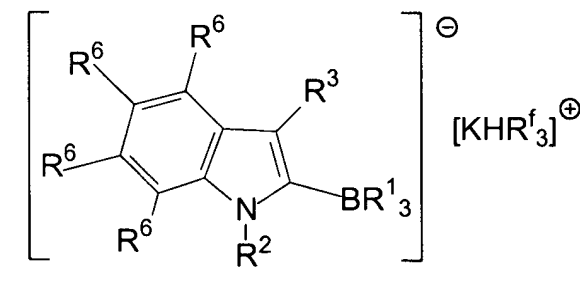


(VI);

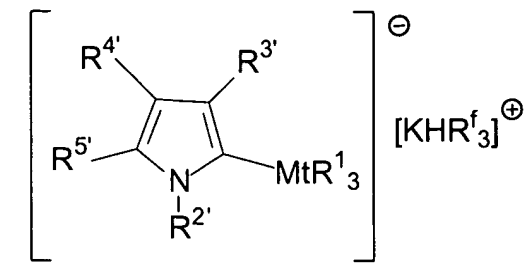


(VII)

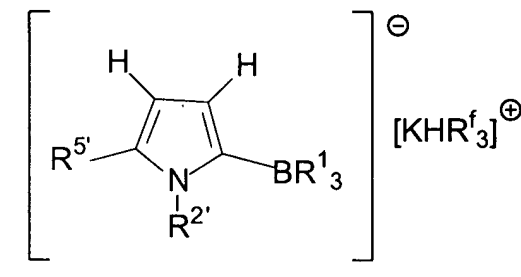
wherein K is a nitrogen (N) or phosphorous (P) atom; R^f , equal to or different from each other, are linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1 - C_{30} alkyl, C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} arylalkyl or C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two R^f can form one C_4 - C_7 ring, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents;



(IX);

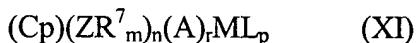


(VIII);



(X).

18. (currently amended): The catalyst system according to claim 15 ~~anyone of claims 15-17~~ wherein the transition metal organometallic compound is a metallocene compounds belonging to the following formula (XI):



wherein $(\text{ZR}^7_m)_n$ is a divalent group bridging Cp and A; Z being C, Si, Ge, N or P, and the R^7 groups, equal to or different from each other, being hydrogen or linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{20}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{20}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{20}$ aryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ alkylaryl or $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ arylalkyl groups or two R^7 can form a aliphatic or aromatic $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_7$ ring;

Cp is a substituted or unsubstituted cyclopentadienyl group, optionally condensed to one or more substituted or unsubstituted, saturated, unsaturated or aromatic rings, containing from 4 to 6 carbon atoms, and optionally containing at least one heteroatom; ~~one or more heteroatoms;~~

A is O, S, NR^8 , or PR^8 wherein R^8 is hydrogen, a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{20}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{20}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{20}$ aryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ alkylaryl or $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{20}$ arylalkyl, or A has the same meaning of Cp;

M is a transition metal belonging to group 4, 5 or to the lanthanide or actinide groups of the Periodic Table of the Elements;

the substituents L, equal to or different from each other, are monoanionic sigma ligands selected from the group consisting of hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, R⁹, OR⁹, OCOR⁹, SR⁹, NR⁹₂ and PR⁹₂, wherein R⁹ is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, C₃-C₂₀ cycloalkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl or C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl group, optionally containing one or more Si or Ge atoms;

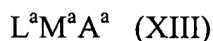
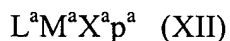
~~m is 1 or 2, and more specifically it is 1 when Z is N or P, and it is 2 when Z is C, Si or Ge;~~

n is an integer ranging from 0 to 4;

r is 0, 1 or 2; n is 0 when r is 0;

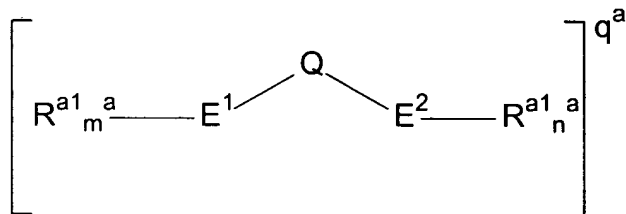
p is an integer equal to the oxidation state of the metal M minus r+1.

19. (currently amended): The catalyst system according to claim 15 ~~anyone of claims 15-17~~ wherein the transition metal organometallic compound is a late transition metal complex of formula (XII) or (XIII):



wherein M^a is a metal belonging to Group 8, 9, 10 or 11 of the Periodic Table of the Elements;

L^a is a bidentate or tridentate ligand of formula (XIV):



(XIV)

wherein:

Q is a C₁-C₅₀ bridging group linking E¹ and E², optionally containing at least one atom ~~one or more atoms~~ belonging to Groups 13-17 of the Periodic Table;

E¹ and E², equal to ~~the same~~ or different from each other, are elements belonging to Group 15 or 16 of the Periodic Table and are bonded to said metal M^a;

the substituents R^{a1}, equal to or different from each other, are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated C₁-C₂₀ alkyl, C₃-C₂₀ cycloalkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl and C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl radicals,

optionally containing at least one atom ~~one or more atoms~~ belonging to groups 13-17 of the Periodic Table of the Elements; or two R^{a1} substituents attached to the same atom E^1 or E^2 form a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic C_4 - C_7 ring, having from 4 to 20 carbon atoms;

m^a and n^a are independently 0, 1 or 2, depending on the valence of E^1 and E^2 , so to satisfy the valence number of E^1 and E^2 ; q^a is the charge of the bidentate or tridentate ligand so that the oxidation state of $M^aX_p^aX_s^a$, or M^aA^a is satisfied, and the compound (XII) or (XIII) is overall neutral;

X^a , equal to the same or different from each other, are monoanionic sigma ligands selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, R^a , OR^a , OSO_2CF_3 , $OCOR^a$, SR^a , $-NR^a_2$ and PR^a_2 groups, wherein the R^a substituents are linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C_1 - C_{20} alkyl, C_3 - C_{20} cycloalkyl, C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl or C_7 - C_{20} arylalkyl radicals, optionally containing one or more atoms belonging to groups 13-17 of the Periodic Table of the Elements; or two X^a groups form a metallacycle ring containing from 3 to 20 carbon atoms;

p^a is an integer ranging from 0 to 3, so that the final compound (XII) or (XIII) is overall neutral; and

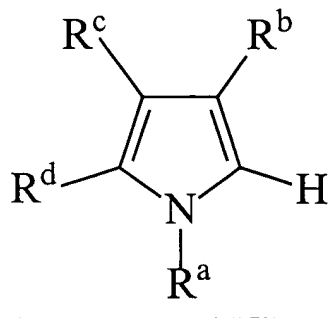
A^a is a π -allyl or a π -benzyl group.

20. (currently amended): A process for the polymerization of at least one olefin ~~one or more olefins~~ comprising contacting at least one olefin ~~one or more olefins~~ under polymerization conditions with in the presence of a catalyst system, as described in claim 15, comprising the product obtained by contacting:

(A) at least one transition metal organometallic compound; and

(B) an organometallic compound obtained by contacting:

a) a compound having the following formula (I):



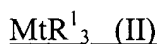
(I)

wherein

R^a is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl group, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms; or R^a can join R^d to form a C₄-C₇ ring;

R^b, R^c and R^d, equal to or different from each other, are hydrogen atoms, halogen atoms, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two or more adjacent substituents R^b, R^c, and R^d form one or more C₄-C₇ rings, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents;

b) a Lewis acid of formula (II):



wherein Mt is a metal belonging to Group 13 of the Periodic Table of the Elements; R¹, equal to or different from each other, are halogen atoms, halogenated C₆-C₂₀ aryl or halogenated C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups; two R¹ groups can also form with the metal Mt one condensed ring; and

c) optionally a compound of formula KR^f₃ wherein K is a nitrogen (N) or phosphorous (P) atom; R^f, equal to or different from each other, are linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, C₁-C₃₀ alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₇-C₂₀ arylalkyl or C₇-C₂₀ alkylaryl groups, optionally containing O, S, N, P, Si or halogen atoms, or two R^f can form one C₄-C₇ ring, optionally containing O, S, N, P or Si atoms, that can bear substituents.